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Indian Turnkey Projects Abroad

By B. K. SANYAL
Former Secretary for Economic Relations
Ministry of External Affairs

Foreign economic relations of a country are invariably a reflection of economic activity at home. India, which is at present the seventh most industrialised country in the world, has until recently not participated in external trade to the same extent as her size, wide variety of industrial and other production would warrant.

Now, however, the position is changing rapidly and Indian engineering goods and services are in demand in countries abroad, particularly developing countries. It is in this process, that Indian firms in the public and private sectors have taken up the execution of turn-key projects abroad.

The execution of a turn-key project constitutes the carrying out of a feasibility study, selection of the appropriate technology, procurement of plant and machinery, construction, management, erection and commissioning.

Choosing the appropriate technology is a tricky business and whatever is offered by India is not necessarily acceptable to another developing country, simply because repeated declarations are made that developing countries should extend their cooperation to each other in economic and commercial fields. Indeed, India is exposed to the fiercest competition in securing turn-key contracts abroad, and I do not recall a single case in which preference was shown to India by any developing country

JOINT VENTURES POPULAR

A joint venture is one type of turn-key project, perhaps the most common. This requires the setting up of an industrial venture in a foreign country in which the capital is provided both by the Indian firm and their local partner.

The Indian share is represented by the export of capital goods, technical know-how and the like to the joint venture company, to the extent of not more than 49 per cent of the equity. This system has worked reasonably well and starting in 1960, when a textile mill was set up in Ethiopia, by 1970 there were 20 such joint ventures actually in operation abroad.

Restrictions in India on the expansion of large industrial houses has encouraged them to take interest in opportunities abroad. Thus we now find that there are 69 Indian joint ventures abroad actually in production, and 67 more are under implementation.

These are spread to over about 25 countries, and almost all of them are joint ventures being set up by these large industrial houses. The items of manufacture cover textiles, both cotton and synthetic, paper, sugar, steel, vegetable oil and various types of machinery and chemicals.

Some of these units are doing

(Contd. on page 8)

Points To Ponder

The Constitution (44th Amendment) Bill has been introduced in Parliament. A special session at the end of October will discuss the 59 clause Bill.

Law Minister Gokhale has said that enough time will be given to all concerned to express their views on all the changes—amendments to 37 existing clauses, substitution of four and insertion of 13 new ones.

Following are the changes in a nutshell:

The normal term of the Lok Sabha and the State Assemblies, including the present Houses, is to be extended from five years to six.

The President is to be expressly bound to act on the advice of the Union Cabinet.

"Anti-national" parties are to be banned, and "anti-national activities" are clearly defined.

The power to prescribe the form of maintenance of Union and State Government accounts is to be taken over from the Comptroller and Auditor-General by the President.

Emergency laws made by President, Parliament and authorities empowered by State Legislatures are to remain in force indefinitely unless repealed or altered by a competent legislature or authority.

Emergency itself is to be in force for a year after its proclamation and renewable for one year at a time as against six months on both counts now.

Defence of the country and national service form part of a ten-point code of fundamental duties to be imposed on citizens.

Free legal aid, workers' participation in industrial management, preservation of environment, and wild life and opportunities for children's growth in freedom and dignity have been made new Directive Principles of State Policy.

India to be declared a "Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic Republic".

BASIC DUTIES

The fundamental duties proposed call upon the citizens to:

1. Respect the Constitution, the National Flag and the National Anthem;
2. Cherish the noble ideals of the freedom struggle;
3. Uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India;
4. Defend the country and render national service when called;
5. Promote the common brotherhood of all the people of India and renounce any practice derogatory of the dignity of women:
6. Preserve the rich heritage of the nation's composite culture;
7. Protect the natural environment and have compassion for living creatures;
8. Develop scientific temper, humour and spirit of inquiry and reform;
9. Safeguard public property and abjure violence;
10. Strive for excellence in all individual and collective activity.

THUS SPAKE THE MAHATMA

It is faith that steers us through stormy seas, faith that moves mountains and faith that jumps across the ocean. That faith is nothing but a living, wide-awake consciousness of God within.

SOKA SCENTED BETEL NUT POWDER

Free India

SUNDAY Sep. 5, 1976

NEW CONSTITUTION

Important amendments to the Constitution, proposed by the largest party in the country, have been presented to Lok Sabha in the form of a Bill.

The main features, as outlined by the Swaran Singh Committee, have enjoyed a nation-wide debate as desired by the Prime Minister. Some new proposals have also been included.

With its big majority, the Congress party could have got the Bill passed in the current session. But another opportunity is being given for a new national dialogue so that new suggestions could be considered.

The amendments, as the Union Law Minister, H. R. Gokhale, has pointed out, seek to spell out expressly "the high ideals of socialism, secularism and the integrity of the nation".

They will expand the present 12 Directive Priciples of State Policy "to ensure opportunities to children to grow in freedom and dignity, to the poor to have free legal aid, to the workers to have a say in management of industry and to the citizens in general to enjoy a sylvan environment with a protected wild life."

All these changes are welcome. They have been made after working the present constitution for over a quarter of a century. They are indeed vital for the real progress of the country.

The 20-point programme will get further strength under the amended constitution

INDIAN TITANIUM INDUSTRY

By D. BABU PAUL

India has been manufacturing Titanium Dioxide for more than a quarter century now. That versatile genius Dr. C P. Ramaswamy Aiyer must reasonably be regarded as the Father of Indian Titanium Industry. Time was when foreign producers of Titanium Dioxide were exploiting the mineral resources of Travancore's west coast. On one occasion when the mining leases came up for renewal Dr. C.P. Ramaswamy Aiyer who was then Dewan of this State put his foot down and insisted that at least a small five tons per day plant should be put up in Travancore before the leases could be renewed. The factory came into being. Today it has grown fourteen times bigger in its capacity. It will not be far into the future when it becomes a major earner of foreign exchange.

Kerala is blessed with a substantial quantity of ilmenite. The beach between the Neendakara Tidal Channel and the Kayamkulam Tidel Channel (generally described as the Chavara coast in the Survey of India) is the area where enriched accumulations of placer sands have taken place. This deposit has a very high mineral content and it is considered to be one of the best sources of ilmenite in the world. About 1/8th of the total world reserves of ilmenite is in Kerala.

The Chavara coast contains not only ilmenite—ilmenite of course forms 75-80 per cent of the sand—but also Zircon, Sillimanite, Rutile, Garnet, Monozite and Silica.

THE PROCESS

Ilmenite is an iron black mineral with a sub-metallic lustre—chemically it is ferrous titanate. The process used in Travancore Titanium Products (TTP) is what is generally known as the 'sulphate route'. To put it very simply, this is a process in which the ilmenite sands are washed with sulphuric acid to remove the iron content and separate Titanium in the form of Titanium dioxide. The black sands at the end of the process becomes the whitest white pigment.

Titanium dioxide has various unique properties which make it the most acceptable pigment for various industries. The high refractive index, the low specific gravity, the chemical stability, the very high hiding power are some of the properties. This finds application in paper, textile and a host of other industries.

All ilmenite need not become Titanium dioxide. It can be Synthetic Rutile. Natural Rutile is a very scarce commodity. Ilmenite can, therefore, be utilised to produce Synthetic Rutile which can be used in the place of the scarce natural rutile. There are also possibilities for producing other titanium based chemicals like Titanium Oxalate, Butyle Titanate, Potassium Titanate and the like. The byeproducts in this are such that they offer wide scope for application in various industries within the country and for substantial exports.

WONDER METAL

The ultimate product, of course, is Titanium Metal. It is the wonder metal of this century. Its resistance to corrosion, high strength to weight ratio, and extremely good resistance at high temperatures make it very attractive. It is rather well known that Titanium has a place in aeronautics and spacecraft industry. However, it may not be so well known that Titanium metal is of great interest to medical profession as well. Its immunity to body fluids make it an ideal material for body inplants.

It is a matter of great pride for the scientific community in India that the expansion of capacity in TTP has been conceived and carried out by Indian scientists. We are today in a position to cater to the entire needs of this country and to export substantial quantities. Originally we were producing only the Anatase Grade but today we were producing the costlier and more sophisticated Rutile also. The quality of our Anatase is backed by 25 years of experience and it has found ready acceptance in sophisticated markets all over the world. Once these markets get stabilised it should be possible for this company to export about 8000 tonnes of pigment every year earning for this country nearly six crores of rupees in foreign exchange.

INDIGENOUS KNOW HOW

For the production of Rutile Grade Titanium Dioxide, for the Chloride process and for the manufacture of the metal we need Titanium Tetrachloride. Titanium Tetrachloride is today imported. National Chemical Laboratories, Pune, claim to have developed an indigenous knowhow for the manufacture of Titanium Tetrachloride. They have a working pilot plant with a capacity of 0.6 Tonnes per day. TTP proposes to join hands with National Chemical Laboratories to scale up this plant about ten times by setting up a semi-commercial plant to manufacture 2000 tons of Titanium tetracloride annually. If this joint developmental effort succeeds it will be a great day for the chemists in this country. With the experience they gain in this process it should be possible on a future date to scale up further to produce 20-50 thousand tonnes of Titanium tetrachloride annually.

The discharge of effluent into the sea has been causing concern to the fisherfolk for a long time now. We are now proposing to undertake a detailed study with the assistance of National Institute of Oceanography to identify a suitable discharge point to minimise the damage. This should also be rather expensive but considering the importance attached to environmental protection this will in the overall interests of the industry be a wise investment.

India To Contribute Rs. 900,000 For Year of Child

The Policy and Programme Co-ordination Committee of the Economic and Social Council approved without a vote, on August 2, a draft resolution on the proposed international Year of the Child. Expressing the hope that the Year would be "a signal success", the observer for India announced that his Government had already decided to contribute 900,000 rupees for the observance of the Year.

The draft resolution approved deals with the international Year of the Child. It would have the Council recommend that the General Assembly:

—Proclaim 1979 as the International Year of the Child, provided that the general objectives of the Year had been agreed and arrangements made to ensure its financing;

—Give appropriate consideration to the general objectives to be borne in mind and implemented during the International Year of the Child:

—Call upon all the appropriate agencies of the United Nations system to participate in the preparation and implementation of the Year, with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to be designated as "the lead agency for this purpose."

Under the draft, the Secretary-General would be requested to submit to the General Assembly at its next session a brief report, including revised estimates of costs for the financing of the International Year of the Child.

The Council would further invite Governments to give their support to the Year and the active participation of the appropriate organs and organizations of the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and individuals would be sought.

Correction

In the report "Kamban Festival" while mentioning the names of the six women characters presented at the Poet's Forum the name of Ahalya crept in inadvertantly instead of Mandodari. The error is regretted.—Ed.

Life Insurance And The Common Man

Life Insurance Corporation of India completed 20 years of its service to the individual and the community on Sept. 1

Life Insurance fulfils a basic need in respect of every earning person—as basic as the need for food, clothing and shelter. However, this basic need is often not recognised by the people in their hard struggle for living and the impact of any lack of provision to meet this need is felt only when a calamity takes place and the family finds itself helpless.

This is because life insurance is not a tangible commodity to sell or purchase. Therefore, the need for life insurance is pushed aside as the last item of the budget and consequently planning for the future is left for the last moment, when, perhaps, it may be too late.

ONLY INSTRUMENT

Life insurance is the only instrument for covering the risk of death and this risk is not covered by any other form of investment. By availing of this protection, it is possible to make a definite provision by way of savings over a long period so as to ensure that the provision is available at any time irrespective of death or survival. This provision can be for many purposes, for instance, provision for the family, provision for education of children, provision for a comfortable retired life, ensuring that the retired life will be as happy and peaceful as the working life. The provision through life insurance has thus, a certain sentimental and emotional value which really is far above the mere mercenary considerations which arise when one has large funds to invest. Life insurance is basically devised to cater to small savings spread over a long period and coupled with the sentimental and emotional values. It is a potent instrument to curb the temptation to squander one's resources. In this background, there is no other scheme comparable to life insurance as a channel for definite and long term savings.

BENEFITS COMMUNITY

The benefits of life insurance are not only confined to the people who insure, but they are actually spread over the entire community in different forms so that people as a whole benefit therefrom. This is made possible because the large amount of savings which are collected, after meeting expenses and paying claims, are available for investment. Life Insurance Corporation has seen to it that these investments cover a large area affecting the living of the people.

Large investments made in Government and other approved securities help the various development projects in the Five Year Plan of the Government both in the sphere of industry as well as agriculture and different services in other sectors. Besides this, a large amount goes in the socially-oriented investments which cover areas like housing, water supply and sewerage, electrification, etc. In addition, substantial amounts are also put in various industries. All these investments not only create large employment opportunities but help improve the health and standard of living of the people.

NEED OF THE HOUR

Every earning individual must, therefore, think of life insurance. The Life Insurance Corporation has a number of Plans which suit the various needs of an individual. Through these Plans one can not only save for one self by a definite and long term savings plan but in the process help in the various nation-building activities which have been mentioned.

The need of the hour is that every earning person in the country must give a helping hand to the fulfilment of the 20-Point Programme and life insurance is a powerful instrument which will help in this respect. The savings of the insured people are safe with the Life Insurance Corporation and every attempt is made to improve the administrative efficiency to maintain a high level of service to the insured people.

Farm Forests For Better Farms

A massive campaign to get everybody, whether staying in the towns or villages, plant more trees and plants is now underway. By now millions of saplings have already been planted in different parts of the country. Many more are to be planted during the coming months.

The 'National Programme for Planting and Saving Trees' is laying great stress on raising farm forests or social forests along with planting in individual house compounds. The reasons are varied and valuable.

Farm forests provide fuel wood, fodder, grazing grounds, small timbers for rural housing, agricultural implements, thorns for fencing and many such needs of rural life.

The rural community is used to getting these needs from the forests near its village either free or at a nominal cost. However, with the indiscriminate felling of trees, the forests have receded upsetting the rural way of life.

Take the role of forest as a source of fuel. The rural poor usually depended on the twigs collected from forest to stoke the kitchen fire. Now he faces a lot of hardship. The shortage of fuel has also led to a large scale burning of cattle dung, which normally should enrich the soil.

The close dependence of farm on forest is too well known but nobody seems to have worked out the economical gains. A study carried abroad, showed that there was an increase in crop yield by 100 to 150 per cent, when raised under the protection of a shelter and wind-break, especially in arid areas. In the case of fodder, the increase was as high as 300 to 400 per cent.

This brings out clearly that farm forest can be much more than a warehouse for various needs. It can be a protective cover, a valuable conserver of soil and local moderator of climate.

The national forest policy lays down that at least 33 per cent of the country's land area should be under forests for preserving the environment, preventing floods and droughts and providing valuable forest products. Now we have a bare 22.7 per cent under forest. In many states, it is as low as 18 per cent. It is time to call a halt to further depletion of natural forests. The raising of farm forests near each village or a group of tiny hamlets will go a long way in preserving our great forests and their wealth, including the innu-

(Continued on page 7)

Focus On Family Planning

National Population Policy

* Raising the minimum age of marriage of girls from 14 to 18 and that of boys from 18 to 21.
* States allowed to adopt compulsory sterilisation with the stipulation that it shall be resorted to only in the case of parents that have three children or more, without any distinction of caste, creed or community.
* In cases where population is taken into account for allocation of Central assistance to State Plans, the figures of the 1971 census to be followed.
* 8 per cent of Central assistance to State Plans will be disbursed according to specific performance in family planning.
* Monetary incentive for vasectomy and tubectomy has been increased on a uniform basis to Rs. 150 for those who have two children or less, Rs. 100 with three children and Rs. 70 for those with four children or more.
* Full rebate allowed in income tax assessment for amount given as donations for family planning purposes to Government, local bodies or any registered voluntary organisations approved for the purpose.
* Suitable amendments to the service and conduct rules of Government employees to make them conform to the small family norm.
* Population education to be made part of school curriculum.
* Special attention to research in reproductive biology and contraception and intensification of the message of family planning through various media of communication.
* Acceleration of motivational programmes such as preferential allotment of houses and loans by States. Stepping up efforts in the field of women's education.
* Compulsory registration of marriages under consideration to effectively impose age restrictions.

The National Population Policy looks at the population problem in the right perspective. The policy is not anti-child or anti-family but aims at providing the five basic inputs of minimum well-being to every citizen namely, food, clothing, education, shelter and health services.

FUN AND LAUGHTER

PROVOCATIVE

The foreman of a logging crew was investigating a fight two of his men had just had. Both were badly battered, and the foreman was trying to appraise the validity of the assailant's complaint.

"I called him a liar," said he who was set upon first. "And I can prove it !"

"What do you have to say to that ?" the foreman asked the other.

"Sure, I'm a liar," readily admitted the lumberjack. "But I got a right to be sensitive about it, ain't I ?"

* * *

WINGS OF LOVE

'Oh, Father !" exclaimed the young girl, blissfully throwing her arms around his neck, "Clarence asked me to marry him last night, and I said yes."

"But, darling, how can you expect to marry Clarence ?" protested her practical parent. "He makes only £4 a week.'

"Oh, that doesn't matter," murmured his starry-eyed daughter, "When you're in love, the weeks are so short."

* * *

THANKS

Picking up his ticket and pocketing the change, the man moved away from the ticket-seller's booth. In a moment he returned to the window.

"Thanks," said the customer, as he walked away. "You gave me ten shillings too much."

* * *

ELEPHANTINE

The elephants and the ants were having a football match. One of the ants got the ball and dashed for the goal. Galloping across to stop him, an elephant put his foot on the ant and killed him. The crowd booed, hissed, and threw bottles. The referee came up to the elephant to reprimand him for his rough play.

"Aw-w, shucks," said the elephant, "I only wanted to trip him."

* * *

THE PRINCE !

"I suppose your baby reigns asking in your family."

"No—Prince of Wails."

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NO ANSWER

A browbeating lawyer was demanding that a witness answer a certain question either in the negative or affirmative.

"I cannot do it," said the witness. "There are some questions that cannot be answered by a 'yes' or a 'no,' as any one knows."

"I defy you to give an example to the court," thundered the lawyer.

The retort came like a flash : "Are you still beating your wife ?"

* * *

REASON

A navy wife, bidding her husband good-bye as he was embarking for duty in the troubled Pacific, was incensed when she saw a black scotty trot aboard.

"Why should dogs be allowed to go along, but the men's wives be forbidden ?" she demanded indignantly of an officer.

"Madam." he replied. "you see, all the men can pet one dog and all be the happier for it."

* * *

CLEVERER

"Joan got only one mark for her sums today, Mummy, so she altered the 1 into 5 and was found out."

"You'd never do a thing like that dear ?"

"Course not : I'd have made it a 4."

* * *

THE MAN !

The diner was in a bad mood. When the soup was served it was lukewarm. To make matters worse, the steak was tough and the salad was a mass of wilted greens. He looked about the hotel dining room and beckoned the waiter.

"That man at the corner table is getting better food and service than I've had here," he exploded. "I am going to make a complaint to the manager. Where will I find him ?"

"He's the man at the corner table, sir," replied the waiter.

PARECAUTION

A man who lived in an apartment building was telling his friend about a neighbour whose bathroom was just opposite his. Every time this neighbour went in to take a bath he sang at the top of his voice, his soapy baritone all but rattling the windowpanes.

"You sure love to sing," the man remarked to his neighbour one day. "I hear you chirping continuously all during your bath."

"I'm singing not because I love it," the neighbour replied. "It's strictly precautionary. The bathroom door has no lock !

HER OWN !

"Have you anything to declare ?" the customs inspector asked the pert young thing in the jaunty hat and flaring topcoat.

"Nothing, ' she said.

After looking her over speculatively, he told her to turn around.

"You're sure you have nothing to declare, miss ?" he said again.

Nothing " she repeated smiling coyly at him over her shoulder.

"Then I am to assume that the fur tail hanging down from under your coat is your own ?"

* * *

HIS CROWD

The man had been in search of a good church to attend and dropped into one in which the congregation was reading responsively with the minister. Droned the congregation :

"We have left undone those things we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done."

The man slithered into a pew, smiled in relief, and said to himself : "Thank goodness. I've found my crowd at last !"

* * *

WHAT FOR ?

"Do you think I shall live until I'm ninety, doctor ?"

"How old are you now ?"

"Forty."

"Do you drink, gamble, smoke, or have you any vices of any kind ?"

"No. I don't drink, I never gamble, I loathe smoking ; in fact I haven't any vices."

"Well, what do you want to live another fifty years for ?"

* * *

WASTED LESSONS

A very nice old lady had a few words to say to her granddaughter.

"My dear," said the old lady, "I wish you would do something for me. I wish you would promise never to use two words. One is swell and the other is lousy. Would you promise me that ?"

"Why, sure, Granny," said the girl. "What are words ?"

* * *

THE IDIOT ?

Office boy (nervously) : Please, sir, I think you're wanted on the 'phone."

Employer : "You think ! What's the good of thinking ?"

"Well, sir, the voice at the other end said, 'Hello, is that you, you old idiot ?' "

* * *

POSTPONED

Rural doctor (meeting patient) —"I've-er-taken the liberty of sending in my little account again."

Patient—"Is that so ? Well, acting on your advice, I'm avoiding business worries for the present."

THE RIGHT TUNE

For his magic-lantern lecture on "Scenes from the Bible," the chaplin of a ship commandeered the services of a sailor who owned a phonograph, to play appropriate musical selections.

The first picture shown was that of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. The sailor frantically reviewed his records but no suitable selection occurred to him.

"Go on ! Play some thing !" urged the chaplin in a whisper.

Suddenly an idea struck the sailor, and in a moment the listeners were treated to a lively rendition of : "There's Only One Girl in the World."

PRECAUTION

Visitors were not permitted to see the baby at all until it was three months old, and then they had to wear gauze face masks.

When several older women with large families tactfully tried to suggest that Martha was carrying things a little too far, she blazed out : "Some mothers are so careless of their children's health that it is positively criminal" after an awkward pause, she added : "Junior seems to be cutting a tooth and I suppose I should find out about it somehow."

"Why," said one of the more experienced mothers, "just put your finger in his mouth and—"

Noticing Martha's horrified expression she added gently : "Of course, you boil the finger first "

* * *

SHAWIAN REPLY

George Bernard Shaw once received an invitation from a celebrity-loving hostess !

"Lady X will be at home Tuesday between four and six."

The playwright sent back the card on which he had written : "Mr. Barnard Shaw likewise."

* * *

BEWARE !

A meek-looking man in the art gallery was gazing rapturously at an oil painting of a shapely girl dressed in only a few strategically arranged leaves. The title of the picture was "Spring."

Suddenly the voice of his wife snapped. "Well, what are you waiting for, autumn ?"

* * *

EASIER TO REACH

Irate Mother (at dinner)— "Babloo, I wish you'd stop reaching for things. Haven't you a tongue ?"

Babloo—"Yes, Mother, but my arm's longer."

* *

GOOD DEED !

"Well, I did my good deed today, made at least a hundred people more cheerfull !"

"How was that ?"

"I chased my hat when the wind blew it down the street."

For The Week 5th September To September 11th 1976

MESHA (ARIES)
Aswini Bharani
Krittika 1/4

FROM Tuesday, the week holds possibilities of social and personal benefits. Finance shows little change But, in family matter there is some stress. Blood troubles are likely. In office statusquo is maintained. Your efforts to advance your interests may not produce immediate results. Speculation should be avoided. Intellectual work will increase. There is growing demand for funds.

★

VRISHABA (TAURUS)
Krittika 3/4 Rohini
Mrigashirsha 1/2

FAMILY affairs attract your attention to a greater extent. While expenses continue to be high there will be worry over something or other. Friction, emotional upset and residential problems are seen. Health needs care. There is need for maintaining cordial relations with your dear ones. In office, a slight reduction in strain can be expected.

★

MITHUNA (GEMINI)
Mrigashirsha 1/2 Arudra
Punarvasu 3/4

THE week opens with better influences in a minor way. While there is little change in official work, unnecessary expenses and physical strain are indicated. At home, there is worry. Sudden changes in temper should be avoided. Personal problems are highlighted. Human relations are not very happy. There is need for caution in all matters.

★

KATAKA (CANCER)
Punarvasu 1/4 Pushya
Ashlesha

THOUGH the general financial position is tolerable, there is still lack of comfort or peace of mind. Midweek is better. Friends will be helpful and there is grace of god. But physical and mental strain will annoy you. Do not react emotionally. Patience is necessary. Whatever may be the condition of your status, there is need for restraint and resignation. But, some gains are not ruled out.

SIMHA (LEO)
Maka Purva Palguni
Uttara Palguni 1/4

SUNDAY and Monday are helpful. Nervous strain is there. Professonal problems are not ruled out. Frequent moods may be there. Health is a bit disturbed. Though income may be alright, there is much expense. In office there is little change. But your renewed efforts may result in satisfactory change. Do not speculate.

★

KANYA (VIRGO)
Uttara Palguni 3/4 Hastha
Chitra 1/2

MIDWEEK is somewhat promising. Conditions are generally encouraging. Friends will be helpful. Continue your efforts as there are chances of success. In office, conditions are good. There is however need for flexibility and understanding. Children's affairs come up for attention. Perhaps, you may be too conscious of some of your near relatives.

★

THULA (LIBRA)
Chitra 1/2 Swathi
Visakha 3/4

THE week is tolerable and the earlier part may also prove benefical. Family matters are a bit taxing Do not rush into investments. Frequent moods are there, Patience and courage are necessary. Financial commitments should be avoided. There is some force in profession. Gains and prestige are not ruled out. Business trends are O.K.

★

VRISCHIKA (SCORPIO)
Vishakha 1/4 Anuradha
Jyeshtha

THOUGH physical strain is seen, there is reasonable comfort at home. Official matters are alright. Public relations are fruitful. The one disturbing feature is the chance of increased family responsibilities. Stomach trouble and blood affections are possible. Your work will be appreciated. Intellectual work is rewarding.

★

DHANUS (SAGITTARIUS)
Mula Purva Ashadha
Uttara Ashadha 1/4

FROM Tuesday the week is better. There is slow progress in health matters. Domestic strain is felt. Do not argue with others. Avoid hasty action and risky investment. Continue your efforts in financial matters. If there is pressure for funds do not bother much.

★

MAKARA (CAPRICORNUS)
Uttara Ashadha 3/4
Shravana-Dhanistha 1/2

SUNDAY and Monday are irksome and there is scope for indisposition. From Thursday the week is better. Renew your contacts as chances of success are there, while income may be satisfactory family burden is too much. Ill health and possibly blood complaints are seen. In office, there is little change. But do not think that you can expect good things as a matter of course.

★

KUMBHA (AQUARIUS)
Dhanistha 1/2 Sathabhishag
Purva Badrapada 3/4

THE week opens all right. Public relations are good. But expenses continue to be high. Though there may be attractions do not indulge in speculation. Outstandings can be collected without much difficulty. Health of the members of the family needs attention. Mental strain is seen. In office fresh forces are working. In order to reduce strain and improve matters.

GLOSSARY

Arudra	—திருவாதிரை
Pushya	—பூசம்
Ashlesha	—ஆயில்யம்
Purva Phalguni	—பூரம்
Uttara Phalguni	—உத்திரம்
Anuradha	—அனுஷம்
Jyeshtha	—கேட்டை
Purva Ashada	—பூராடம்
Uttara Ashada	—உத்திராடம்
Shravana	—திருவோணம்
Dhanistha	—அவிட்டம்
Satha Bhishag	—சதயம்
Purva Bhadrapada	—பூரட்டாதி
Uttara Bhadrapada	—உத்திரட்டாதி

MEENA (PISCES)
Purva Badrapada 1/4
Uttara Badrapada Revati

MOST of the week is favourable. Financial strain however is there. Friends will be helpful New investments calls for careful decision. At home there is physical strain. In office you can expect better trends. Continue your efforts in promoting your official prospects.

Canara Bank's Aid To Farmers

Under the Farmers' Benefit Scheme of the Canara Bank 5876 agriculturists have been provided with loan assistance of over Rs. 1.73 crores through its 950 branches all over the country. Under this scheme of making loans to small agriculturists to meet essential consumption and other expenditure, loans upto Rs. 1,000/- are given for purposes like education, marriage, hospitalisation etc. The scheme is also intended to serve the social purpose of freeing the small farmers from the cultches of private money lenders.

An assistance of Rs. 27.41 lakhs has been extended by the Canara Bank to members of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Adivasis for agricultural purposes upto the end of last year. A total of 3754 persons belonging to these groups were given this help.

THE FAMOUS ASTROLOGER
(OFFICE ESTD: 1924)
Recipient of many gold Medals and Certificates from Maharajas Judges and Notables, Annual life reading, monthly details Rs. 5/- 3 questions: Rs 2/- Horoscope or writing time required.
Vivaga Poruthangal in Tamil Re. 1. Jotish Janabodhini—Tamil Rs. 1-50
Pt. Kaliyur M. Srinivasa Chariar
"THAPONITHI" Phone: 443654
Thyagarayanagar,
Madras-600 017.

Sports In Socialist World

IGNATIUS

When Hasely Crawford of Trinidad picked up the gold medal for 100 metres sprint at Montreal to become his country's first Olympic champion the press and news agencies presented the feat as a fairy tale come true. Crawford himself had revealed that he used to run for candy on the dirty streets of San Fernando as a child. He was one of eleven children of a very poor family. To quote his own words : "I did my first running at the age of six in the streets for sugar-candy. Only the winner got the candy."

From the age of eight Crawford dreamed about becoming an Olympic Champion. At long last his dream materialised.

Of course, it was a glorious achievement, more so, when we take into account the hazardous long path Crawford has traversed and the innumerable difficulties which were surmounted. For instance, the small company where he works—Crawford is an industrial designer—could not afford to pay him even for the two months requ red to complete his Olympic preparation.

But what matters, more than anything else, in this context is the plight of tens of millions of children in the non-socialist countries, who are not provided with necessary facilities to develop their talents. Thousands of Crawfords end their lives in ghettos and streets without ever being able to realise their dreams.

It is only the socialist society which realises that physical culture and sport play a major role in the harmonious development of a person. It attaches great importance to physical training and makes it compulsory in Kindergardens, schools, colleges and higher education establishments.

In a socialist society, there are no private individuals or organisations who make a profit out of sport. Sportsman are not paid for taking part in sports events. Each sportsman has his own profession or trade, which provides him with his means of living. Sport is not a profession, but a hobby or past time. There are no also professional sports.

During training periods and competitions, sportsmen continue to draw their regular salaries. Their fares to and from contests inside the country and abroad are also paid for.

Soviet Union, the first socialist state in the world has set a glorious example in this respect also. In the USSR amateur sports movement embraces all those who join sports societies and engage in different sports at their place of work or study.

Any wage or salary earner or any members of his family has the right to join the sports club of his organisation. The entrance fee and the membership dues of any sports club is only 30 kopecks a year. There are over 2,10,000 such sports groups and clubs. Altogether there are 37 central sports societies uniting more than 46 million enthusiasts.

One or two five-minutes breaks for physical exercises are made at most industrial enterprises and offices during the day. These exercises are conducted by skilled instructors.

The general manngement of all sports activities is entrusted with the committee for physical culture and sports under the USSR Council of Ministers.

The fine and glorious success of socialist countries at the 21st Olympaid in Montreal is the result of such elaborate arrangements and scientific organisation.

The Soviet Union retained its top most position in world sports at Montreal also with 125 medals (47 gold, 43 silver and 35 bronze) and 788 5 points. For the first time in Olympic history second place in the team classification went to the atheletes of of another socialist state, the German Democratic Republic They amassed 638.5 points and won 40 gold, 25 silver, and 25 bronze medals.

It is necessary also to note the successful performance in the Montreal Olympic Games of the Young men and women of other socialist countries. Medals of the 21st Olympiad were gained by sportsmen of Rumenia, Poland, Bulgaria, Hungary, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Mongolia.

All in all, the socialist countries took possession of 121 gold, 107 silver and 116 bronze medals.

A total of 198 gold medals were contested in Montreal, and 121 of them have been won by athletes of the socialist countries.

FOCUS ON FAMILY PLANNING

POPULATION AND POVERTY

Family Planning is not for its own sake. Its ultimate object is to remove poverty and to see that the fruits of independence are made available to the less fortunate sections of our society.

According to the findings of the National Sample Survey conducted in 1971, 45 per cent of the population of India are below poverty line. If the message of family planning is carried to every home, it will serve as an eye-opener.

The Battle For Survival

About 150 million people in developing countries left the countryside over the last 25 years in search of what most of the migrants describe simply as a "better life."

The exodus is likey to become worse. By the year 2000 the already swollen cities of the Third World may have to find room and jobs for as many as 1,000 million additional inhabitants.

HOW CAN THEY SURVIVE?

According to ILO experts who have diagnosed conditions in Calcutta, Jakarta, Sao Paulo, Abidjan, Accra, Lagos, Bogota and Kuala Lumpur, the battle for survival of the urban poor must be waged on several fronts. Among them :

Fighting the physical degradation of big towns and creating jobs in the process. The Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority, for instance, has provided paving, drainage, toilets and lighting for about half of the city's 2 million slum dwellers—and has given jobs to more than 120,000 people.

Encouraging the informal sector. Poor people in Third-World cities earn their living in an amazing variety of ways. In Nairobi they make shoes out of old motor tires. Sao Paulo teems with petty traders. For the most part, the poor are living off each other's meagre resources. But given more financial credit, administrative support, better techniques and management, the informal sector could give a much needed spurt to the local economy. In Jakarta it has absorbed the bulk of the city's labour increase.

Planning the distribution of the nation's population in such a way that over-concentration in megacities gives way to regional balance.

Promoting rural development to provide sufficient food for the city dwellers and to make the countryside as attractive a prospect as the city.

Many delegates at the World Employment Conference echoed these proposals, and some added a caveat that the choice is between the political, costs of reform and the political risks of social upheaval.

Women Athletes Have More Stamina

Cologne (DaD)-Professor Wildor Hollmann of Cologne Sports Academy, Federal Republic of Germany, is an internationally renowned specialist in sports medicine. He claims it can only be a matter of time before women prove more than a match for men in endurance disciplines. When it comes to staying-power, Hollmann reckons, the fair sex have the edge over male athletes.

Long-distance swimming already proves his point. Professor Hollmann maintains, but he means really long distances and these seldom hit the headlines and do not feature in amateur swimming championships or at the Olympics. Women are, however, on the brink of a breakthrough in long-distance running, the Cologne medic claims, and he forecasts a performance explosion by the fair sex in long-distance rowing and cycling too.

It is all done by hormones, Professor Hollmann says. Testosterone, the male sex harmone, boosts muscle growth to an extent that women cannot equal by normal means. But cardiac specialists claim that women, prior to the menopause, have the more efficient and resilient hearts and circulatory systems. Women of, let us say, a sporting age are certainly less liable to heart attacks than men, and they probably owe this advantage to the protection afforded by oestrogen, the female sex hormone.

Research at Georgetown University, Washington, seems to confirm the hypothesis that oestrogen keeps thrombosis at bay, whereas testosterone encourages the formation of arterial blood clots. Three years of experiments with laboratory animals have convinced US doctors of the urgent need for a drug to counteract the effects of the male sex hormone.

Professor Hollmann can readily explain why women athletes benefit from more resilient hearts and lungs. Oxygen is circulated more efficiently and the muscular metabolism proceeds more rationally. Long-distance disciplines calling for stamina and endurance evidently stand to gain, particularly since the physically more efficient female body is usually smaller than the male, with the corresponding energy saving

Long-distance running should certainly prove a discipline in which women tend to gain the upper hand. Rowing and cycling, on the other hand, call for powerful muscles, which relatively speaking are a male privilege, but these bulging muscles tire faster because they make poorer use of a smaller supply of oxygen. So here too the fair sex stands to make great strides.

—Albert Keller

Sugar Diabetes

By Professor Y. VASYUKOVA

The necessary tests have been made, and the results point to sugar diabetes. What is the appropriate reaction to this unpleasant news ? Friends will either cry out in alarm, "That's terrible. It's an incurable disease" or reassuringly state, "It's nothing to be afraid of, you can live with it with no problems till you're a hundred". To some extent, both are right. Sugar diabetes is a serious disease and, indeed, incurable, in the sense that treatment cannot restore normal functioning of the pancrease so that it can again secrete a sufficient quantity of the hormone insulin. But modern medicine possesses a whole arsenal of means to help the body cope with this efficiency. While sugar diabetes unquestionably means the end of carefree living, the patient should be able to continue working as before, provided he strictly and scrupulously carries out the doctor's orders.

Doctors now have a large assortment of sugar decreasing medicines at their disposal (adebit, dibotin, daonil, bucarbon, among others) and will choose one of them according to the individual requirements of the patient and the stage of the disease. If, however, such preparations fail to normalise the carbohydrate metabolism, injections of insulin are prescribed. In recent years many insulin compounds have appeared which have prolonged effects, reducing the sugar in the blood for 12 hours or longer (as compared with the 6–8 hour effect of ordinary insulin).

Much, of course, depends on the patient himself. The first condition for successful treatment is an early diagnosis. Therefore, everyone should know the symptoms of sugar diabetes. They are : Dryness in the mouth and extreme thirst (resulting in drinking more than three and sometimes up to eight litres a day), itchy skin, and with some people, sudden loss of weight. Cases of dermatitis, eczema and furunculosis that do not respond to treatment may also indicate a subtle form of sugar diabetes. It has recently been established that this subtle form is often present in women who have given birth to large babies (weighing over 4 5 kilograms) In these cases both the mother and child should be checked for diabetes. Sometimes the sugar excess does not show up in the usual blood tests, and a proper diagnosis can only be made from a test taken after a special "load" of glucose has been introduced into the bloodstream.

There is a greater danger of diabetes among obese people. However, this should not lead an overweight person to conclude "I am fat, therefore I will eventually develop diabetes". In fact, by waging a successful struggle against excess weight one can avoid the disease. By the way, adults may exclude sweets entirely from their diet without running any risks. Contrary to a current notion that sweets are necessary "for the heart" or "for mental work", it is a fact that all the body's requirements are provided by other kinds of food.

A diabetic patient must have a clear understanding of the complications his disease can develop, and how he can avoid them. Along with the danger of a sharp rise of the sugar level in the blood, there is the danger of sharp drop. This condition, called hyperglycemia, may be caused by insufficient or delayed food intake after an administration of insulin. (As a rule, diabetic patients should eat something every three to three and a half hours). Another cause may be excessive physical exertion. Hypoglycemia is accompanied by weakness, palpitation or even loss of consciousness. This condition can be corrected immediately by drinking some sweet tea, or by eating a sweet, a spoonful of honey or a piece of bread. The doctor should also be summoned at once. It is important that the organism not be subjected to such sharp fluctuations in sugar level as much as possible—they are dangerous not only in themselves, but in their consequences. Since to a certain extent, whether or not we develop diabetes depends on us, let us opt in favour of good health.

Focus On Family Planning

Raising The Age Of Marriage

Raising the age of marriage, an important aspect of the National Population Policy, may be the single largest contributor to the reduction of birth-rate. Assuming that 50 per cent of the marriages in rural areas are taking place when the girl crosses the age of 14, the proposed difference of four years may contribute to achieve results which the last 10 years of sterilisations, pills and other methods taken together could not achieve.

A Bill to raise the marriage age has been inroduced in Parliament.

Muscovite's Diary

Ivan Ivanov

SOVIET PRESS ON THE RESULTS OF THE COLOMBO CONFERENCE

"The discussions at the Conference and its decisions confirmed the intention of the non-aligned countries to continue the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, apartheid and zionism. This intention was reflected in two main documents adopted at the final meeting—the political and economic declarations, "writes Y. Yakhonotov in Pravda's review of international events.

The newspaper Sovietskaya Rossia emphasises that "the importance of the Colombo forum lies in the fact that it clearly pointed out a close relationship between two processes : the growing of the non-alignment movement into an ever more influential factor in the international arena and the deepening of detente."

* * *

CARE FOR WORKING WOMEN

The social status of women has nowhere and never before been so high as it is in the Soviet Union. Izvestia writes editorially. Women take an active part in the political and puplic life of the country and in administering the state. For instance, there are 475 women among deputies to the USSR Supreme Soviet and over a million among deputies to local Soviets.

But no matter what is a women's occupation a minister, a milkmaid, a director of an institute, a weaver, a professor or a collective farmer,—she plays one of the most prominent roles on earth—she is a mother. That is why the Soviet state spares no effort to help a woman combine successfully her working functions and her maternal obligations. Much has been done for this during the international women's year : further measures were taken for protecting the health of mother and child, the material and technical basis of medical and child care institutions was strengthened, and the working, living and recreational conditions of women were improved. The tenth five-year plan (1976–1980) in the USSR is characterized by still greater care for improving the working and living conditions of employed women. In particular, it is envisaged to expand the network of pre-school establishments, to build kindergartens and nurseries for 2 5 to 8 million children and to develop public services in order to make women's daily chores easier.

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merable flora and fauna they support.

Significantly, the farm forests will also generate ample employment opportunities. With this potential, programme of farm forestry can contribute to improving the socio-economic condition, especially of weaker section of our society. The farm forestry operation by itself is labour intensive.

To raise farm forest, we would not need any cultivable land. The vast stretch of waste lands around villages, which at present are an environmental problem, as well as helping in rapid soil erosion, offer great scope for development of such forests. These forests will provide fuel, feed, fodder, manure and food, besides bringing in the ecological benefits, if the right kind of trees are planted in these places.

India with its diverse physical and climatic conditions ranks as one of the richest countries of the world in so far as the wealth of flora and fauna are concerned. There are about 15,000 plants species in the country. Through systematic studies the experts have classified and identified tree species according to their utility. Besides, a number of new economic species have been introduced from other countries.

In conjunction with the present tree planting programme a consolidated list of useful trees and shrubs that can be grown in farm forests have been drawn. The choice of trees, however, naturally depends on the agro-climatic conditions prevailing in each region.

How the farm forests will shape up to extend all the goodness to the rural community, ultimately lies in the hands of each and every individual in an area. For this, he must realize that the tree is man's best friend. (F. I. U.)

Health Research For Radical Change

"The research programme of the World Health Organization must be designed with the sole purpose of bringing about a radical change in our approach to provide health care according to the needs of the people," declared Dr. V. T. H. Gunaratne, WHO Regional Director for South-East Asia, inaugurating the Second Meeting of the Regional Advisory Committee on Medical Research Today at World Health House in New Delhi.

"We must develop new and easily applied scientific information and technologies to achieve our health objectives. In formulating research activities, our aim should be to bring appropriate health services to the people in our Member States, and particularly to those who are underprivileged and under-served. Research should aim at finding solutions to the urgent health problems, within the means of Member States."

"The first meeting of this Committee decided that we should initially focus our attention on a few problems, namely, alternative strategies for the delivery of health care, malaria, leprosy, dangue haemorrhagic fever and chronic liver diseases including cancer."

"It was clear that the research programme of the Organization should emphasize essentials. WHO is not just another research agency for pursuing independent research which may duplicate existing efforts," added Dr. Gunaratne.

'Many health workers think that the "best" health care is that in which everything that is known to medicine is applied to every individual, by the highest trained medical scientist, in the most specialized institution. This type of thinking is clearly dangerous. It is as if I would prefer the aircraft in which I was travelling to be flown by a professor of aeronautical engineering rather than by an experienced pilot. Clearly we need research in how to make more experienced pilots available while making the best use of our professors of aeronautical engineering."

"In this connection, the wealth of traditional medicine in the countries of our Region should not be neglected. Research into this indigenous source, which is our ancient heritage, should be stimulated to improve the health of our people. I am glad to inform you that a joint Indian Council of Medical Research and WHO team has just visited the Ayurvedic Trust at Coimbatore, to explore the feasibility of conducting joint research on rhumatism."

"The most critical challenge to health research workers in the Region is to develop technologies to solve health problems which are socially and culturally acceptable and economically sound. Primary health care is health for the people, and here governments and international agencies such as WHO have their role to play, but it is above all health by the people."

"The time is now ripe to solve two priority problems in our Region, namely, malaria and leprosy," said Dr. Gunaratne. "As you know, resurgence of malaria has become a serious problem in our Region. This is due to resistance of vactors to insecticides, drug resistance of malaria parasites, and various management problems of malaria control programmes. Important areas for operational and scientific research include resistance of malignant malaria to common drugs and the spread of such resistance; the efficacy of different control measures.

Discussing leprosy, the WHO Regional Director said that one-third of the total number of leprosy cases in the world was from this Region. "Decades of conventional methods of control heve not produced fruitful results. We must therefore develop without delay new ideas for attacking the problem from all angles. The new fie d trials of various treatment regimens with Rifampicin constitute a step in this direction. During my visit last year to the Jawaharlal Institute of Post-graduate Medical Education and Research, Pondicherry, I was happy to find that the research workers in the Institute have been able to grow leprosy culture on animals. With this success it can be hoped that some effective vaccine against leprosy will be developed."

—

Wind Power Picks Up

Wind power is picking up momentum as an enery source, and will begin providing electricity to U.S. homes and businesses within a year.

The Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA) is in the process of choosing four sites around the country to locate modern versions of windmills generating between 125 kilowatts and 1.5 megawatts.

The wind generators need strong continuous winds of about 20 miles per hour to reach their full potential. The first is expected to be installed by the end of the year.

Each system will operate experimentally for about two years, feeding electric power into existing public utility networks to determine their commercial feasibility.

FOCUS ON FAMILY PLANNING

NEW FILLIP

The national population policy announced by the Union Minister of Health and Family Planning, Dr. Karan Singh on April 16, 1976, is calculated to give a new fillip to the Family Planning movement in the country. The new policy symbolises a frontal attack on the citadel of poverty and provides for an integrated package of health, family planning and and nutrition services to the people.

Unless population growth is controlled it will not be possible for us to raise the standard of living of the people, to raise the status of women and to fulfil the rising expectations of the people.

From Page 1

extremely well, and this is bound to generate further interest in securing Indian participation for the manufacture of other items.

Following the steep rise in the price oil in 1974, a number of developing countries are now in a position to implement developmen projects which repuire the execution of civil construction works, such as the building of roads, railways, harbours, airports, housing, and other building complexes, land reclamation and irrigation. Some of these projects envisage investments of amounts from 50 to 1000 crore rupees.

ENCOURAGING TRENDS

A civil construction turn-key project requires the development of a work force consisting of engineers, skilled and semi-skilled labour. Foreign contractors from the developed countries have secured most of these contracts and are execuing them by employing skilled workers from India, Pakistan and some other countries.

In fact, there is nothing to stop India undertaking such projects valued at at least 1000 crore rupees per year, because we have the third largest reservoir of trained manpower in the world and it is chiefly a question of developing this asset in friendly developing countries.

Happily, public sector companies, some of which have been set up recently to undertake the construction of buildings, railways, roads, power generation and power distribution have made a good start, and have secured contracts valued at approximately 300 crore rupees during the past six months or so.

To bring about a marked improvement in securing and executing civil contracts abroad calls for the collection and rapid dissemination of detailed information about such opportunities. Secondly we must facilitate visits of our experts to the project site so that they study the local reules and regulations and collect precise information on the cost of developing and maintaining our personnel in the country concerned, asses availability of local labour, material, transport, power supply etc

QUICK CLEARANCE NEEDED

At home, we have to ensure quick clearances for sending our personnel abroad in large numbers, and for providing financial facilities such as putting up bid bonds, performance guarantees and release of foreign exchange for working capital at the initial stage.

The third type of turn-key project is for Indian firms to sub-contract to an organisation abroad so that, a part of the project is executed by the Indian party.

This type of project mainly involves the development of labour and in some instances the supply of material also. It has the advantage of enabling a large number of firms to undertake this type of work, though individually, each contract may not be of great financial maganitude.

Such work could include erection contracts on behalf of a prime contractor from a highly developed country. Some Indian firms are engaged in such work and their numbers are bound to grow.

To sum up, while joint ventures will continue to form an important component of Indian turn-key projects abroad, it is in the field of civil contracting, particularly as prime contractors that our future lies.

(Courtesy: AIR)

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